

# MONTANA WEEKLY SUMMARY

For week ending February 04, 2017

## Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News

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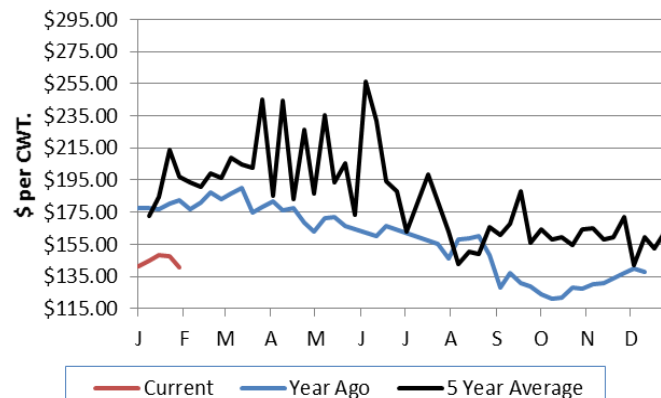
**CATTLE:** Receipts: 3,439; Last Week: 11,952; Last Year: 4,214. Compared to last week: Feeder steers 650-850 lbs sold mostly 3.00-5.00 lower. All other steers were too lightly tested to develop an accurate market trend, however lightweight calves under 500 lbs sold with steady undertones, while all other steers sold with lower undertones. Feeder heifers 400-550 lbs sold mostly 5.00-10.00 lower, heifers 550-700 lbs sold mostly 5.00 lower. Demand was mostly light on very light offerings. Quality this week was mixed with quality ranging from average and plain to very attractive. Feeder cattle this week were mostly offered in small lots forcing buyers to piece together loads. Market activity this week was mostly slow. Heavy snow fell this week and roads were closed in some locations making trucking difficult. USDA released its bi-annual cattle inventory report this week and it showed the US cattle herd still in rebuilding stage as the overall inventory grew by 2 percent to 93.6 million head. The calf crop also grew 3% for 2016. Markets reacted bearishly to this news as they lost money Monday-Wednesday before bouncing back slightly Thursday. Overall CME contract prices from last Friday through this Friday lost 3.875 for the March, 3.25 for the April and 2.75 for the May. Friday's settlements were 123.57, 123.50 and 122.375 for the March, April and May contracts respectively. Weigh up cows sold on mostly good demand for light offerings. Packer buyers showed strong demand for cows for immediate harvest this week as they pushed feeding buyers on strings of high quality cows. Slaughter cows sold mostly 1.00-2.00 higher, however a large portion of cows were high yielding cows this week. Feeding cows sold higher as packer buyers were in the market pushing offerings higher. A large portion of this week's offering was comprised of coming 3-5 year olds as several ranches sold groups of cows by age group. These cows were mostly attractive and suitable to enter a breeding program. Many of these cows sold higher than they have in months. A large portion of the older cow offering this week were bred for late summer and fall calving and buyers purchased many of these cows to feed. These strings of cows were mostly attractive, uniform and in medium flesh, perfect for feeding. Slaughter bulls sold steady to 2.00 lower on a light offering of plain to average quality. Offerings this week consisted of 62 percent feeder cattle, 7 percent slaughter cows, 1 percent slaughter bulls, 20 percent feeding cows and bulls and cows returning to the country, balance bred cows, heifers, and pairs.

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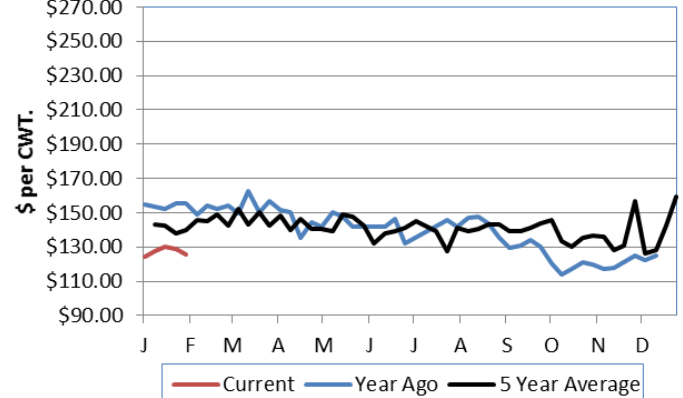
### MONTANA WEEKLY FEEDER CATTLE WEIGHTED AVERAGES

Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1			Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 1		
Weight Range	This Week	Year Ago	Weight Range	This Week	Year Ago
300-400 lbs.	191.00	223.00	300-400 lbs.	152.00-157.00	195.00-208.50
400-500 lbs.	156.00-180.00	200.00-227.00	400-500 lbs.	135.50-151.00	179.00-187.50
500-600 lbs.	139.00-156.00	182.00-209.00	500-600 lbs.	130.00-140.00	158.00-180.00
600-700 lbs.	132.00-139.00	164.00-184.00	600-700 lbs.	117.00-128.00	148.00-161.00
700-800 lbs.	127.00-131.50	150.50-163.50	700-800 lbs.	116.00-120.00	135.00-145.00
800-900 lbs.	122.50-126.00	146.50-153.00	800-900 lbs.	114.00	130.00-138.00
900-1000 lbs.	114.00-120.50	144.00-145.00	900-1000 lbs.	na	130.00

Weekly Medium and Large 1 500-700 lb. Feeder Steer Price



Weekly Medium and Large 1 700-900 lb. Feeder Steer Price



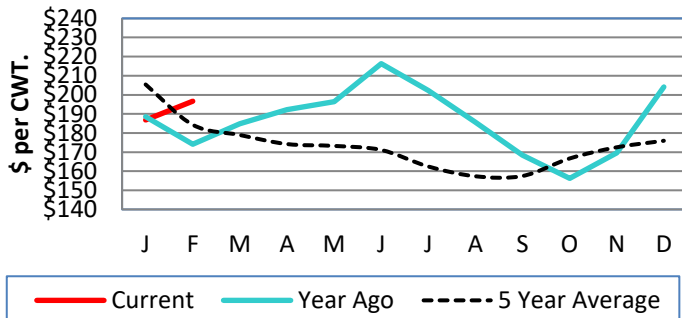
### Weekly Montana Slaughter Cow and Bull Prices Average Dressing

	Percent Lean	This Week	Last Year
Breakers	75-80	56.00-61.00	72.00-78.00
Boners	80-85	55.00-59.00	70.00-78.00
Lean	85-90	53.00-57.00	69.00-77.00
Bulls	YG 1-2	76.50-81.00	96.00-101.00

**Feeding Bulls:** 1257-2285 lbs 70.00-86.00. **Feeding Cows and Cows Returning to the Country:** Coming 2 yrs old 881-1119 lbs 105.00-113.50, Heifers 2 yrs old and coming 3 865-1325 lbs 83.00-114.00. Coming 3 yrs old 772-1300 lbs 71.00-104.00. Young 821-886 lbs 93.00-94.00, 1063-1645 60.50-81.50, exposed 1235 lbs 80.00. Middle Aged 1160-1459 lbs 58.00-66.00. Aged 1099-1640 lbs 57.00-65.00, 1030 lbs very thin 52.50-53.00, Bred 1305 lbs 58.00 **Bred cows:** 3-4 yrs old Medium and large 1 calving before May 15th 1207-1360 lbs 1,300.00 -1,400.00, Calving in May-June 1004 lbs 1,110.00, calving July-Sept 1093-1360 1,135.00-1385.00. 3-6 yrs old Medium and large 1 calving May-June 1155 lbs 1,360.00, calving July-Sept 1075 1,075.00. 5-6 yrs old Medium and large 1 calving before May 15th 1150-1268 lbs 1,210.00 -1,360.00, calving July-Sept 1274 1,010.00. Middle aged (Solid mouth) Medium and large 1 calving before May 15th 1208-1418 lbs 1,000.00. Aged (Broken mouth) Medium and large 1 calving before May 15th 1403-1558 lbs 875.00-1,000.00, calving May-June 1455 lbs 935.00, calving July-Sept 1359 910.00.

## MONTANA SHEEP MONTHLY SUMMARY

### 70-90 Lb. Feeder Lambs

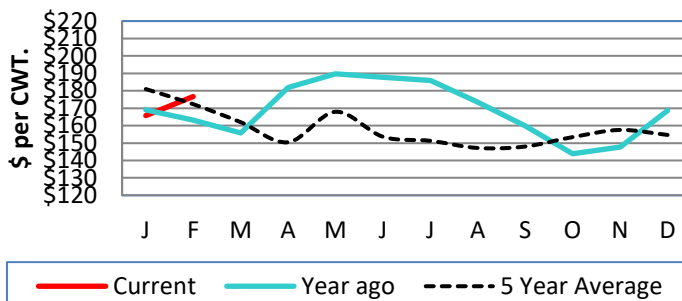


### SHEEP 1/30/17

Receipts: 5,116; Last sale (Jan 16): 2,221; Year Ago: 2,964. Compared to Sale (Jan 16): All feeder lambs sold 10.00-15.00 higher, with the exception of 80-89 lbs lambs which sold mostly 5.00 higher. Demand for all lambs on offer was good to very good on moderate offerings. Quality this sale was mostly attractive. Several long strings of replacement quality ewe lambs were offered this sale and these lambs were met with very good demand. Market activity this sale was mostly active. Many ranchers were at this sale as this was the annual bred ewe special and offerings of bred stock were heavy with over 2,500 head of bred ewes. Ranchers showed good demand for long strings of ewes off ranches with dispersions. Demand for all ewes increased as the sale pushed into the afternoon as ranchers continued to show strong interest as supplies dwindled. Slaughter ewes were very lightly tested this sale as demand from ranchers wanting to purchase ewes to return to the country was very good. Slaughter ewes were too lightly tested to develop an accurate market trend, however lower undertones were noticed. Ethnic demand continues to drive this ewe market, however demand was not as strong this sale as last sale. Slaughter kids experienced much of the same demand issues as slaughter ewes. Demand for slaughter kids was mostly good. Slaughter kids sold steady to 10.00 lower. Quality this sale was average to attractive, however overall quality was not as strong this sale as it was last month. Sheep receipts were 4 percent slaughter ewes and bucks, 0 percent slaughter lambs, 38 percent feeder lambs, balance ewes returning to the country and breeding stock. Goat receipts were 64 percent kids, 7 percent nannies, less than 23 percent feeder kids, balance billies and weathers and replacement goats. Sheep comprised 94 percent of all receipts while goat comprised 6 percent. All sheep and goats sold on a per cwt basis, all breeding stock sold on a per head basis unless otherwise noted. The Next sale will be March 6th 2017.

[www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/BL\\_LS350.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/BL_LS350.txt)

### 90-110 Lb. Feeder Lambs



**Ewes returning to the country:** Young 148 lbs 72.00, young bred 158-164 lbs 76.00-86.00. Mixed middle aged-Aged 133-198 66.00-75.00, 217-295 lbs 56.00-60.00.

**Slaughter bucks:** 185-280 lbs Average dress 59.00-65.00, low dress 46.00-53.00.

FEEDER LAMBS M&L 1-2		SLAUGHTER EWES	
70-80 lbs	184.00-202.00	Good (2-3)	62.00-71.00
80-90 lbs	184.00-195.00	Good (3-4)	65.00
90-100 lbs	175.00-185.50	Utility (1-2)	66.00-72.00
100-110 lbs	168.00-173.50	Cull (1)	60.00-74.00
110-120 lbs	162.00-168.50	---	---

**HAY:** 2/03/17 Compared to last week: Alfalfa hay sold steady this week on all classes of feeding hay. Dairy quality hay remains steady. With another round of heavy snow and extremely cold temperatures seen this week, buyers were active in buying hay. Demand continues to be mostly good on light to moderate supplies. Supplies are mixed across the state with some valleys starting to experience tighter supplies, while in others supplies remain moderate. Hay is also seeing a premium in the Eastern portion of the state where supplies were light going into fall due to the drought this summer. Many portions of the state are shipping hay into this region as a result. Ranches across the state are searching for round bales as round supplies have tightened. In many classes round bales are selling at the same money or a premium to squares. Prices for straw remains steady on very good demand. All prices are dollars per ton and FOB unless otherwise noted. **Alfalfa:** Supreme: Small squares, 200.00; Large Squares, 135.00. Premium: Large squares, 115.00-120.00; Small squares, 200.00 Retail. Good: Large squares, 105.00-140.00; 150.00-165.00 Retail; Large rounds, 120.00-140.00; Small squares, 120.00-150.00. Fair: Large squares, 95.00-130.00; Large rounds, 110.00-130.00; Small Squares, 120.00. Utility Large rounds, 80.00-95.00. **Grass/Alfalfa:** Premium: Large rounds, 150.00; Small squares, 150.00-160.00. Good: Large rounds, 120.00-150.00; Large squares, 145.00; Small squares, 120.00-150.00. Fair: Large rounds, 105.00-120.00. **Grass:** Good: Large rounds, 100.00-110.00. Fair: Large rounds, 100.00. Utility: Large rounds, 90.00. **Timothy Grass:** Premium: Small squares, 210.00-240.00; Large rounds, 120.00-125.00. Good: Large rounds, 110.00-120.00. **Barley straw:** Large squares, 45.00-65.00; Large rounds, 45.00-65.00; Small squares, 50.00-65.00. **Wheat straw:** South central Montana Large squares, 35.00-50.00. Northern Montana Large squares, 45.00-50.00; Large rounds, 45.00-50.00. **Wheat Hay:** Large rounds, 70.00. [www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/bl\\_gr310.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/bl_gr310.txt)

**GRAIN:** 2/03/17 Compared to 1/27/17, Winter Wheat closed .04 to .31 cents per bushel higher; Spring Wheat closed .05 cents lower to .02 cents per bushel higher; Feed barley closed steady. [www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/bl\\_gr110.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/bl_gr110.txt)

### MONTANA WEEKLY GRAIN PRICES

	12 Percent Winter Wheat	14 Percent Spring Wheat	Feed Barley/CWT
Billings Area	3.99-4.30	5.18-5.33	---
Great Falls	4.15-4.29	5.41-5.60	4.50-4.75
Northeast MT	3.45-4.06	4.76-5.29	---